



December 2010

## *The Arizona State Veteran Home Chatter*

*Arizona State Veteran Home*

*4141 North S. Herrera Way*

*Phoenix, AZ 85012*

*602-248-1550 • [www.azdvs.gov](http://www.azdvs.gov)*

### **Veteran of the month**

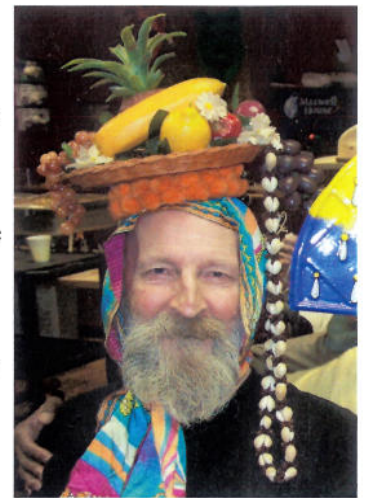
Thomas David Hands was born on October 20, 1939 in Hamilton Ontario. His parents were Scottish and English Immigrants that came to Canada. They had two more children, Harold and Eleanor. He grew up in a small village where if trouble happened, the neighbors would turn to Dave. The neighborhood "grouch" fell victim to Dave's antics when he came home and found his garage door nailed shut from sides to bottom. Dave enjoyed playing street hockey and when the winter came along the neighborhood kids would flood the school yard and have ice hockey.

Dave graduated High School in 1957. He was employed by a company that made fuel, milk and tank bodies. He stayed there until they went out of business. He always liked mechanics. Dave and his friend, Gary, bought space from an auto wrecking company where they would buy, fix and sell old cars. They did this for a couple of years.

He went to Florida for a vacation and got to watch the construction of Daytona Race Track. Since he also drove in stock car races this was a great experience. He wanted to move to the states. He got a visa and did some auto transporting between Detroit and California. It took him three years to get his residential visa. The day he was to get his visa the radio announced that Kennedy had been shot. He returned the next day. He ended up residing in California. He worked for the Ford Dealership when he got drafted. He was such a good mechanic that they asked for a deferment, which was given.

He got stationed at Fort Polk in Louisiana and then assigned to Fort Sill Oklahoma. He was assigned to motor pool. He was sent to Viet Nam briefly and discharged after two years with the Army. He returned to California where he continued as an auto mechanic while doing carpentry after hours. He got to drive in races for the Winston West Division Cap Series later in his life. He remained in California until coming to the Veterans Home two years ago. Dave has great stories and is willing to fill in the details which will amuse any. Please congratulate Thomas David Hands as the Resident of the Month.

Article by: Pamela Minunni



#### **Inside this issue:**

<i>Veterans' / Members Birthdays</i>	2
<i>Calendar of Activities</i>	2
<i>Administrator's Corner</i>	3
<i>Veterans' Day Pictures</i>	4
<i>Veterans' Day Pictures</i>	5
<i>Important Phone Numbers</i>	6

Editor

Candy Covarrubiaz

## Veterans' / Members Birthdays

William L Whitaker	12/15		Robert G Stohlgren	12/27
Walter H Cox	12/19		Carol Piepenbrink	12/27
Carole J Clark	12/20		Andrew Zurick	12/28
Dexter L Hillman	12/24		Herald Jones	12/29
John P Darrenkamp	12/24		John R Brady Jr	12/30

## Activities / Events

- 12/1 Neighborhood Council (dining room) 10:00am
- 12/1 Army Guard Casino Night (D-2) 6:30pm
- 12/2 Bingo (D-2) 2:15pm
- 12/3 Outing: Fish Fry (sign up in advance) 3:30pm
- 12/9 Poker and Game Night (D-2) 6:30pm
- 12/11 Riders USA Holiday Party (D-2) 2:15pm
- 12/13 American Legion Sing A Long (D-2) 10:00am
- 12/13 Phoenix Elks Bingo (D-2) 2:15pm
- 12/15 Food Committee Meeting Liberty Hall
- 12/16 Bingo (D-2) 2:15pm
- 12/17 Fish Fry Outing to Phoenix West Elks (sign up in advance) 3:30pm
- 12/18 Christmas Party with Gold Star Moms, Eagle Promotions (D-2) 2:15pm
- 12/19 Christmas Lights Outing 6:00pm
- 12/20 Late Night Bingo (D-2) 7:00pm
- 12/21 Apache Junction Outing (sign up in advance) 8:30am
- 12/22 Winterfest Birthday Party with a Singing Quartet (D-2) 2:15pm
- 12/23 Winter Variety Show (D-2) 2:15pm
- 12/23 Christmas Gift Delivery
- 12/25 Christmas Carols On All Units
- 12/27 Phoenix Elks Bingo (D-2) 2:15pm
- 12/31 New Years Eve Countdown Party (D-2) 2:15pm
- Every Saturday at 10:00am We Have Bingo on D-2
- Every Sunday at 2:15pm we have Ice Cream Social on D-2



## Administrator's Corner

I watched with wonder at the way we pulled together as a team to make Veterans Day a wonderful celebration in honor of our Veterans. The food was wonderful, the entertainment was enjoyable, and the camaraderie was easily apparent. The words "Thank you" just doesn't seem enough but I sincerely am appreciative for all the hard work. It showed.

Those of us who work and volunteer at the Arizona State Veteran Home have the honor of feeling that every day is Veterans Day. Each day we come to work and through our duties, honor those who have sacrificed to support the values and personal freedoms that we enjoy on a daily basis.

This month we will also celebrate the December Holidays. As we these special moments with our families, let us pause to think of those on active duty who continue the proud tradition of this sacrifice in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other parts of the world.

To the staff and volunteers of the Arizona State Veteran Home, from my heart to you, warmest wishes for a kind and gentle holiday.

Colleen

Colleen Rundell, M.S., LNHA

## Veteran's Day



Colleen Rundell, Msgt Patrick Mahan, Tsgt Matt Walsh, Ssgt Robert Fink, Ssgt Brian Miller, Ssgt Scotty Saenz, Ssgt Christian Nerone, Ssgt Ramsey Tandall



American Legion Riders



## Veterans' Day



Metrotech High School FBLA



Our presentation of colors by the Desert Ridge Junior ROTC



Therapeutics Programs Manager Kristen Fray, Veteran Clyde Smith and Daughter



Arizona Department of Veterans' Services Director Joey Strickland



The Scottish American Military Society served food alongside our Administrator Colleen Rundell, Dietary Manager Gustavo Gutierrez, and cook Bobbie Reynolds





Gustavo Gutierrez and Bobbie Reynolds



Jonathan Thomas and Family



Candy Covarrubiaz, Msgt Patrick Mahan, Tsgt Matt Walsh, Ssgt Robert Fink, Ssgt Brian Miller, Ssgt Scotty Saenz, Ssgt Christian Nerone, Ssgt Ramsey Tandall, Sgt Adam Herczeg USMC



Veterans' Day Parade



Veterans' Day Parade



Commissioner Lionel Sanchez and Actor Alan Tafoya

A special thank you goes out to Doris Crossen who volunteered her services as a photographer! 5

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***“CARE YOU HAVE EARNED ”***

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**Administrator**

Colleen Rundell, M.S., LNHA  
602-248-1591 Office Phone

**Admission Coordinator**

Eric Coleman  
602-248-1550 Ext. 2746  
602-509-2277 Cell Phone

**Housekeeping Manager**

Jose Santos  
602-248-1589

**Director of Nursing**

Jackie Nischan, RN  
602-248-1815 Office Phone

**Nursing Supervisor**

Cell Phone  
602-677-2201

**Engineering**

Randy Koelle  
602-248-1582

**Assistant Director of Nursing  
Daytime Nursing Supervisor**

Robyn Sisson, RN  
602-677-2201

**Dietary Manager**

Gustavo Gutierrez  
602-512-2925

**Nurses Station**

C-1 602-351-6886  
C-2 602-351-6887  
D-1 602-351-6884  
D-2 602-351-6885